



California Department of Water Resources  
Tribal Communication Committee is looking for



**California Tribal Water Stories for  
publication as part of the  
California Water Plan Update 2009**

**Tubatulabal Water Story – “When the Earth Quaked”**

Story from Francis Philips Autobiography – record by Erminie Voeglin (Anthropologist) in 1933 – Tubatulabal Ethnography (published in 1938, UC Berkeley Press).



Francis Philips (age 68 – Father: Tubatulabal and Mother: Koso) provides the story and her daughter, Legora Tungate (age 40: Mother  $\frac{1}{2}$  Tubatulabal and  $\frac{1}{2}$  Koso, Father: Tubatulabal) translates this story from Pakanapul into English. Story told in 1933.

“There was one time when we were living over at cuhka-yl (no. 17, fig. 11) in a mud and brush house. That's the way the Indians used to do, they just moved all around; they'd camp under some willows, anywhere; they'd keep moving around all the time. A big earthquake came and frightened everybody. I was a little girl then, about 7 yrs. Old (1872); afterward my father used to tell me about that earthquake. I remember only a little bit; the springs got white, like milk, when that earthquake came. Everybody cried and went around shouting; there were lots of people living at cuhka-yl Pedra Netto was living there then. We had to get water to drink from the river at Kernville; the water in the springs was hot and white, just like milk, for about 3 days. Nobody would drink it. I just remember a little bit about it; I know all the children were frightened and cried when the earth quaked”.

*Francis Philips (1933) – Kern Valley, California  
Tubatulabal and Koso*

If you or your Tribe is interested in submitting a story, photo, recording, or film about Tribal Water Story please contact:

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